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Reports from the Classical Field

It is the purpose of this department to keep the readers of the *Journal* informed of events and undertakings in the classical field, and to make them familiar with the varying conditions under which classical work is being done, and with the aims and experience of those who are in one way or another endeavoring to increase its effectiveness. The success of the department will naturally depend to a great extent on the co-operation of the individual readers themselves. Every one interested in the *Journal* and in what it is trying to do is therefore cordially invited to report anything of interest that may come to his notice. Inquiries and suggestions will also be useful in directing the attention of the editors to things which may otherwise escape their notice. Communications should be addressed to J. J. Schlicher, 1811 N. Eighth Street, Terre Haute, Ind.

Greek Dramatic Performances at the University of California.—The Greek department of the University of California is making preparations for the presentation of the *Eumenides* in the Greek Theater on April 18. The students who are to take part have been given a course of training during the year in the Greek drama, for which university credit will be given. The course is under the direction of Professor J. T. Allen and Dr. I. M. Linforth. The department hopes to make this course a permanent feature of the work in Greek, and thus to provide for the production of a play at stated intervals.

The Greek Theater at the University of California.—The Hearst Greek Theater is not an architectural curiosity, fit only to amuse the traveler, but a beautiful and inspiring structure, which serves a useful purpose and already has a large place in the hearts of those who live about San Francisco Bay. It is located at the highest part of the campus, in a depression in the hillside, where formerly the students sat on the ground and watched the dramatic performances of their classmates on a temporary stage after the primitive Greek and Roman fashion. This hollow formed by nature was perfected by excavating and filling until it had the desired shape. Within it, by the help of wooden molds which were built for the purpose, the stage and the semicircular seats for the audience were constructed out of concrete.

The stage is larger in proportion to the theater than the Greek stage was. It is inclosed at the rear and the ends by a wall, which rises somewhat higher than the topmost step of the auditorium. At the height of about seven feet the wall is cut back, and on the stylobate thus formed rests a row of engaged columns of the Doric order, which support the simple entablature. The frieze of this consists of triglyphs alternating with shields. The rear wall has one large doorway and two small ones, and each of the side walls has one. Without intent to do so the actors follow the primitive custom of dressing and waiting for their parts in tents at the rear of the stage wall, since permanent dressing-rooms have not yet been provided.

The orchestra has its ancient Greek form, that of a level circle between the lowest step and the stage. It is paved with gravel in order to prevent damage to it when the students, on the occasion of a rally, build a bonfire there. At present the stage is entirely separated from the auditorium by uncovered passages (*parodoi*), which form the easiest entrances to the lower part of the theater. The lower steps just above the orchestra are not used as seats, but chairs are placed on them. They are so broad and low that the slope of this part of the theater is gentle. About half way from the orchestra to the top of the auditorium, following the curve of the steps, is a broad aisle, and just above it is a low wall (*præcinctio*). Above this the slope is much steeper, and the steps are high enough to make a seat and just wide enough to leave room for a person to walk behind the ones who are sitting. There is no support for the spectator's back. This upper half of the auditorium is divided into wedge-shaped sections by stairways whose steps are half as high as the seats.

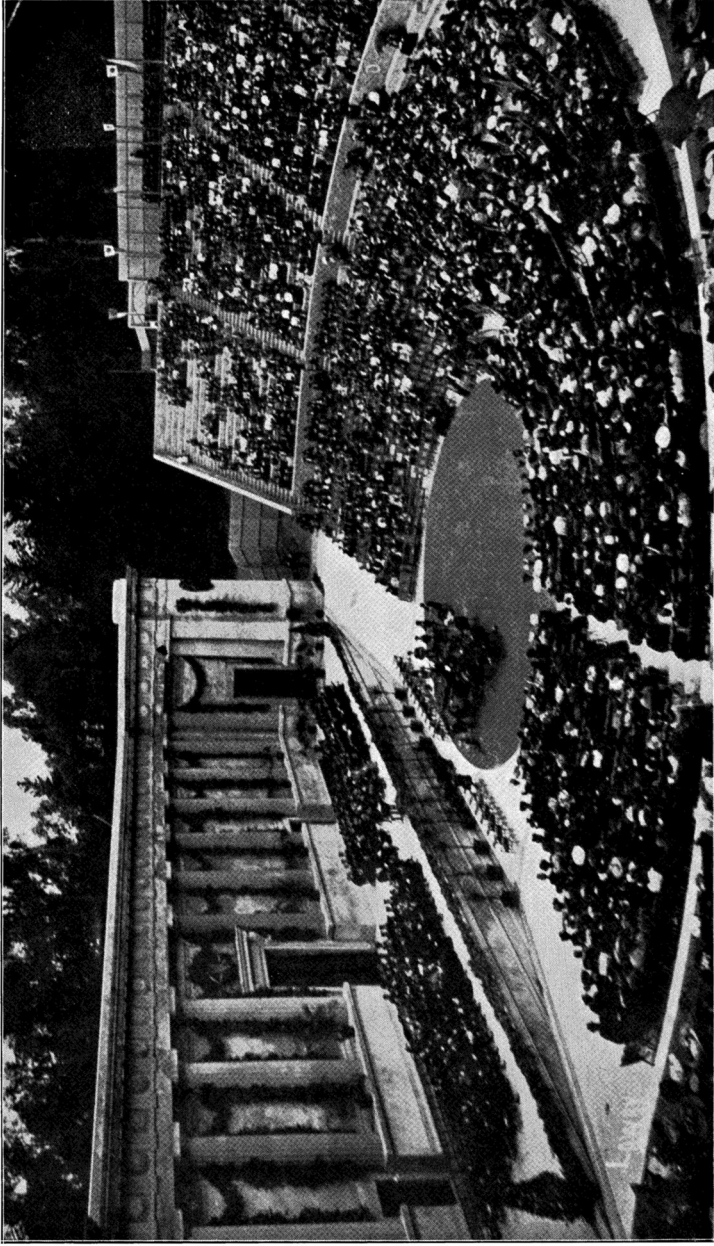
Compared with the theaters of the ancients this would rank as one of average size. It seats between 7,000 and 8,000 comfortably. When the stage, orchestra, and wooden benches built above the theater proper are used, there is room for about 10,000. The diameter of the outer circle is 250 feet, of the orchestra, 50 feet. The stage is 150 feet long and 28 feet wide and its wall is 42 feet high.

The structure is not yet complete. The architect's plan includes a covered gallery above and back of the auditorium, and a colonnade above the stage wall, and the union of these two parts of the building by a wall. Hence at present the spectators lack one thing which the ancients enjoyed, a place to go when it rains.

The theater has been found well adapted to modern uses, and except for the production of certain forms of music, it is superior to those in common use.—C. J. O'CONNOR.

State Meetings in New England.—Sectional meetings under the auspices of the Classical Association of New England have been held in New Hampshire (Manchester High School, February 16) and western Massachusetts (Greenfield, December 8). At each meeting about fifty were present, and a committee was appointed to arrange for an organization and for the next meeting. Five papers were read at each place, among which were the following: "Quality vs. Quantity in Preparatory Classics," (Miss Small, Mt. Holyoke College), "The Study of Greek Tragedy" (Professor Smith, Amherst), "Classical Training and Modern Citizenship" (Professor Wild, Williams), "The Question of the Maintenance of Greek in the Schools" (Professor Adams, Dartmouth), "How to teach the Art of Translating" (Professor Burton, Dartmouth).

The Michigan Classical Conference.—The Thirteenth Michigan Classical Conference was held at the University of Michigan, March 27 and 28. At the first session, besides several papers on subjects of interest to classical teachers, the programme included a lecture by Professor F. W. Shipley, of Washington University, St. Louis, on "The Roman Camp of Saalburg: Its Remains and



GREEK THEATER, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Its Restoration." In the afternoon of the first day there was a symposium on "The Value of Humanistic Studies as a Preparation for the Study of Law;" the opening address was given by Merritt Starr, Esquire, of the Chicago bar. In the evening Professor Gordon J. Laing, of the University of Chicago, gave an illustrated lecture on "The Art of Ancient Etruria."

The principal subject of discussion at the session of the second afternoon was "Should Our High-School Courses in Latin Be Extended Downward into the Seventh and Eighth Grades?" Papers were presented by Dean Andrew F. West, of Princeton University, and Professor Allen S. Whitney, of the University of Michigan; the general discussion following the papers was opened by Superintendent J. Stanley Brown, of Joliet, Ill., and Principal Webster Cook, of Saginaw, Mich.

The Latin Club of New York City.—This club, composed of 150 classical instructors in the high schools, academies, colleges, and universities of New York and vicinity is now in its seventh year. It holds three luncheons each year, at each of which some classical man of prominence is invited to give an address on a topic of common interest, which is then discussed by the members. Among those who have given the addresses in the past are Professors Tracy Peck, Hale, Bennett, Morgan, Rolfe, B. L. D'Ooge, Ashmore, and K. F. Smith. The papers at the first two luncheons of the present year were by Professor J. E. Barss (November 10) on "Latin Composition," and by Professor Charles G. Fenwick (February 9) on "The Teaching of Latin in St. François Xavier College."

These papers and discussions, as well as other articles of a similar nature, are published in the *Latin Leaflet*, a four-page weekly which is the organ of the club. The purpose of the *Leaflet* is "to provide a clearing-house for secondary teachers in New York and vicinity, or anywhere else; to afford an opportunity to younger classical teachers anywhere for the publication of their more modest endeavors along the line of original work, which might not otherwise see the light; to stimulate the teaching and quicken the student activity in the work in the high schools of Greater New York." Of the subscription price of fifty cents one-half goes to raise a fund for "one or more college entrance scholarships," which the club is establishing, and for which about \$5,000 are now in the treasury. The editor-in-chief is Dr. David H. Holmes, 179 Marcy Ave., Brooklyn.

University of Michigan.—The work in general linguistics formerly conducted by Professor George Hempl (who now occupies the chair of Germanics at Stanford University) has been transferred to Dr. C. L. Meader, whose title has been changed to assistant professor of Latin, Sanskrit, and general linguistics.

Dr. Charles B. Newcomer, instructor in Greek and Latin, has been appointed instructor in Greek and Latin at the George Washington University.

The English and Scotch Associations.—The plans of the English Classical Association include arrangements for an excursion to Italy during the Easter vacation. Admission to the party is to be confined to members of the associa-

tion and their families. The tour of two weeks from London to Naples and return, including board and lodging on the way, is sixteen guineas. A summer tour for the members of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South would cost rather more, but might be worth considering.

The membership of the English association is 1,150; secretaries: Professor E. A. Sonnenschein, 7 Barnsley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, and Mr. E. Harrison, M. A., Trinity College, Cambridge.

The Classical Association of Scotland has 300 members. Its secretary is Mr. William Lobban, M.A., High School for Girls, Glasgow.

Recent Literary Finds in Egypt.—The report of the work done by the Egypt Exploration Fund in the season 1905-6 shows an unusually large number of important finds in the department of Greek literature. The discoveries include the remains of two libraries, the papyrus as usual having been torn up before it was thrown upon the rubbish heap. Only half of the pieces have been deciphered, but among these are thirteen columns of fifteen lines each containing paeans of Pindar. All the fragments of his paeans which were extant before this amounted to only about a dozen lines. There are further about a hundred complete, or nearly complete, lines of the lost *Hypsipyle* of Euripides, twenty-six columns of the *Symposium* of Plato, a leaf from Sallust's *Catiline*, a piece of the lost Greek original of the Acts of Peter, another of an unknown version of the Acts of John, and especially forty-five lines on vellum of a lost gospel, of striking interest. By far the most important discovery is a fragment of fourteen columns of about forty lines each, and several parts of columns, belonging to a new history of Greece. The period covered by the fragment is from 396 to 394 B. C., and the quantity of information which it contains that is not found in Xenophon or Diodorus, is considerable. Messrs. Grenfell and Hunt are inclined to assign the work to Cratippus, who is said to have continued the history of Thucydides.

A Classical Nestor.—Three years ago on the 22d of December, the professors and students of those colleges of Kentucky University that were then in session gathered to a joint meeting in the old chapel of Transylvania University. The occasion of their meeting was the eightieth anniversary of the birth of Professor Charles Louis Loos, LL.D., who then held, and still holds, the chair of Greek in this institution. He may well be honored, not only by his own colleagues and students, but by classical teachers and students everywhere, as the Nestor of their profession.

Professor Loos was the second of five children of a French father and a Bavarian mother, and was reared in the use of two languages, near the boundary of France and Germany, until he came to the United States in his eleventh year, when he began the acquisition of a third. To this fact he attributes that love of languages and literature which has been his ever since his college days. By the death of his father he was early thrown on his own resources. In his six-

teenth year he went to Canton, O., to take an examination for a county certificate. Almost simultaneously with the beginning of his career as an educator he commenced that Christian activity which, as a preacher of the gospel and as editor of or contributor to religious periodicals, he has kept up ever since.

Entering Bethany College, W. Va., in 1842, at the beginning of its second session, he continued there until he was graduated in 1846. His work as a teacher of the classic languages began at once in the preparatory school of the college, where he taught for three years.

In 1880 he became president of Kentucky University. His incumbency of that place was terminated by his second resignation of it in 1897, since which time he has retained the professorship of Greek. None, however, of the places he has filled in church or college has been more congenial to his deeply religious nature than was the presidency of the Foreign Christian Missionary Society, which he held by successive annual elections through the eleven years that ended with 1900.

Quartum ago annum et octogesimum; and though, like Cato at that age, Professor Loos cannot make Cyrus' boast of youthful strength not noticeably impaired by age, he yet teaches fourteen hours a week, writes for the *Christian Standard*, preaches, and lectures. His life is at once an example and an inspiration to his students and to all who know him.—A. R. MILLIGAN.